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ORIG: GACarver, Jr.
UNIT: DCI/SAVA
EXT:
DATE: 27Feb68

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP80R01720R000500090047-3

MESSAGE FORM

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PRIORITY
SAIGON

ILLEGIB

1. WOULD APPRECIATE ASAP INTERIM REPORT ON YOUR VIEWS AND IMPRESSIONS DERIVED FROM YOUR OBSERVATIONS AND CONSULTATIONS WITH COLLEAGUES. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE REPORT ON ATMOSPHERICS AND DEVELOPMENTS DURING VISIT OF WHEELER PARTY.

2. ALSO REQUEST, IN ADDITION TO DUTIES ALREADY IN HAND, YOU ADDRESS YOURSELF TO FOLLOWING TASK: HIGH LEVEL REQUESTORS WILL PROBABLY ASK FOR CONSIDERABLY MORE DETAILED INTELLIGENCE POST MORTEM ON RECENT EVENTS THAN INITIAL CUT MADE TO SUPPORT IN BRIEFING YOU HELPED PREPARE. IN ANY EVENT, A DETAILED ANALYSIS NEEDED FOR OUR OWN INTERNAL USE. KEY GENERAL QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED ARE:

ILLEGIB

(A) DID OUR COLLECTION AGENCIES (NOT JUST STATION) FULLY EXPLOIT ALL ASSETS AND SOURCES FOR INFORMATION WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN OBTAINED ALL OR MOST OF THE PERTINENT INTELLIGENCE WHICH WAS AVAILABLE ON THE TET OFFENSIVE, AND (B) TO WHAT EXTENT WAS THE EVALUATION OF AVAILABLE INTELLIGENCE SOUND AND DID COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATIONS REAC

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PAGE TWO

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TO ☐

RESPONSIBLE COMMANDERS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS IN TIME TO ASSIST THEM IN
TAKING APPROPRIATE ACTION?

3. MORE SPECIFICALLY WE WILL NEED TO KNOW:

A. WHAT INFORMATION OR EVALUATIONS REACHED J-2 MACV, GEN.
WESTMORELAND ~~THE~~ AND THE AMBASSADOR IN THE PERIOD 15-30 JANUARY
INDICATING THE POSSIBILITY OF ATTACKS ON THE CITIES? WHAT CAN BE SAID
REGARDING THE ORIGIN, QUANTITY, ACCURACY AND TIMELINESS OF SUCH INFOR-
MATION OR EVALUATIONS?

B. IN HOW MANY CASES OF ATTACKS ON THE CITIES AND TOWNS DID
THE RESPONSIBLE FIELD COMMANDERS (US OR VIETNAMESE) RECEIVE WARNINGS
THROUGH INTELLIGENCE CHANNLES IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO AVOID BEING
SURPRISED?

C. AS YOU KNOW, MUCH IS BEING MADE BY THE PRESS OF THE
ALLEGATION THAT DESPITE THE MAGNITUDE OF PRE-ATTACK VC TROOP MOVE-
MENTS, THE CIVILIAN POPULATION NEVER ALERTED EITHER GVN OR US
OFFICIALDOM TO THE FACT THAT SOMETHING FUNNY WAS GOING ON. TO WHAT

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TO []
EXTENT DID THE VIETNAMESE CIVIL POPULATION GIVE INFORMATION TO THE
AUTHORITIES (VIETNAMESE OR US) BEFORE AND/OR DURING THE ATTACKS?

D. TO WHAT EXTENT WAS THERE A FREE AND RAPID AND COMPLETE
EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN US AND GVN AGENCIES BEFORE AND
DURING THE ATTACKS?

E. INSOFAR AS IT CAN BE RECONSTRUCTED, WHAT PICTURE OF THE
TOTAL SITUATION, BASED ON INTELLIGENCE THEN IN HAND, DID SENIOR
OFFICIALS HAVE JUST PRIOR TO THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES?

4. WHAT WE OBVIOUSLY NEED TO CLARIFY (AND, WHERE POSSIBLE,
CORRECT) IS NOT ONLY SHORTCOMINGS IN THE COLLECTION OF INTELLIGENCE,
BUT ALSO SHORTCOMINGS IN THE DISTRIBUTION, COLLATION, EVALUATION AND
DISSEMINATION OF INTELLIGENCE COLLECTED BY SOME COMPONENT OF THE
ALLIED ESTABLISHMENT BUT NOT MADE AVAILABLE IN TIMELY FASHION TO

ILLEGIB OTHER COMPONENTS OR POTENTIAL USERS. THE CLASSIC CASE HERE IS

ILLEGIB [] -- THE SAIGON ATTACK ORDER -- ACQUIRED ON
20 JANUARY AND NOT DISTRIBUTED UNTIL 31 JANUARY.

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PAGE FOUR

5. WE REALIZE THE ABOVE ARE QUESTIONS NOT EASILY ANSWERED. WE REQUEST AN INTERIM REPORT UPON YOUR RETURN AND A FULL REPORT FROM THE STATION NO LATER THAN 14 MARCH.

6. PLEASE ADVISE YOUR FUTURE ITINERARY AND INTENDED ETA IN HQS AS SOON AS YOU CAN.

END OF MESSAGE

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George A. Carver, Jr.
SAVA

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